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# Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition,

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IN THIS

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HER YEAR OF JUBILEE.

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"I feel all the better able to fight when I know that I am fighting side by side with loyal men. We are loyal all of, us. We are loyal to our Queen. We are loyal to British connection. We are loyal to the Dominion of Canada. We are loyal to this, our own dear Province of Ontario. It is because we are loyal to all of these that we are Reformers, and it is because we are loyal to all of these that we mean to do our best to make the whole country Reform before three or four months are over.

—Hon. Oliver Mowat, vide Cobourg "World,"  
• 2nd December, 1886.

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*The* EDITH *and* LORNE PIERCE  
COLLECTION *of* CANADIANA



*Queen's University at Kingston*

“WE.”

1207146





# “WE.”

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(1)

## Mayor Rochon,

of the City of Hull, was one of Mr. Mercier's candidates at the last general election for the Legislative Assembly in the Province of Quebec. He is one of those gentlemen who did his utmost to contribute to the “great triumph,” the “joyful news” of which reached Mr. Mowat at Penetanguishene on the 14th October of last year.

This gentleman in the course of a speech delivered by him during the late campaign spoke as follows, *vide* Aylmer *Times* 25th August, 1886:

“He (Riel) had been tried by half a jury composed of six men, not one of whom was of his own race and language. And what was the indictment? Was it murder? No; it was taking up arms against Her Majesty the Queen, her crown and dignity! What a frightful offence, gentlemen!”

And we read that the disloyal following of this friend of Mr. Mowat received his treasonable utterances with shouts of laughter.

(2)      **The Honorable Wilfred Laurier**

is a particular friend of Mr. Mowat. He enjoys even a greater distinction than that, for he is a Privy Councillor of Canada, sworn to defend Her Majesty from those attacks against her crown and dignity which in the opinion of Mr. Rochon constitute such a slight offence.

Mr. Laurier attended the famous meeting on the Champ de Mars at Montreal on the 22nd November, 1885, to protest against the execution of Louis Riel.

If anything were wanting to prove the seditious character of this assemblage it is to be found in the fact that amid the cheers of the crowd was read the following telegram from the open, undisguised foes of England in New York city.

“ We tender you our warmest sympathies and we  
“ assure you of our earnest support against Orange  
“ brutality and English tyranny.

“(Signed), J. B. MURPHY.”

“      PATRICK FORD.”

The Montreal *Herald* tells us that it was explained at the meeting who these men were.

One would have thought that a gentleman who was “loyal to the Queen, to British connection,

and to Canada," would have resented in the strongest possible manner this gross insult publicly offered to a British people. Did Mr. Mowat's friend, Mr. Laurier, offer any protest against it? We do not find that he did, but we do find that he immediately proceeded, after the acclaim which followed the reading of the Fenian message had died away, to harangue the excited people in a speech which harmonized admirably with the text supplied by Messrs. Murphy and Ford.

Among other things, this sworn defender of Her Majesty was not ashamed to speak as follows: "If  
 "I had been living on the banks of the Saskatchewan  
 "when the the revolt broke out I should myself have  
 "taken up arms against the Government." That is against the Queen, for according to the British North America Act "the Executive Government  
 "in and over Canada is hereby declared to continue  
 "and be vested in the Queen."

That this was his deliberate opinion, and not born of the excitement of the moment is clear from the fact that nearly a year afterwards Mr. Laurier reaffirmed it, using exactly the same words in addressing the peasants of Chambly, with this addition: "We are now on the classic ground of Canadian  
 "liberty. In the graveyards of this county are  
 "to be found the bones of those who were not afraid  
 "to face British bullets."

(3) **The Honorable A. C. Jones,**

also a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council, a gentleman of whom Mr. Mowat's friend Mr. MacKenzie thought so highly that he entrusted him with the command of the armed forces of Canada, and one of "our friends" who certainly did his best to aid in making the "whole country reform" last winter. This Mr. Jones not very many years ago, spoke as follows at a public meeting in the city of Halifax :

"When the British flag is hauled down from Citadel Hill, I shall take off my hat and cheer."

That Mr. Jones spoke those words is attested to by no less a personage than the late Sir William Young, for many years Chief Justice of Nova Scotia, who, together with five hundred people, heard them used.

This loyal man now sits in the Dominion Parliament in the very front rank of "our friends," and only the other day from his place in the House denied that he was a Canadian. *Vide* Hansard 1887, page 803.

(4) **Mr. McColl, M. P. P.**

for Pictou, Nova Scotia, a supporter of Mr. Fielding, whose success last year which Mr. McColl helped

to achieve, was heralded as a "Tory catastrophe" by the *Toronto Globe*, and who is on the most friendly terms with Mr. Mowat. Mr. McColl, with a candor which Mr. Mowat would do well to imitate, thus declares himself:

"I have been asked to define my position. I am "a repealer, and further than that I am an annex-  
"ationist." *Vide* official report Nova Scotia House of Assembly 14th March, 1887.

(5) **Mr. J. V. Ellis, M. P.**

is a prominent supporter of Mr. Edward Blake. He is perhaps the most prominent Liberal from the Province of New Brunswick. He certainly is one of "us," and these are his views:

In 1877 he wrote as follows—

"Union with the United States would very readily  
"remedy our present ills."

And in 1884—

"Nothing could be more unfortunate for Canada  
"than her British connexion."

(6) **Mr. L. H. Davies, M. P.**

is the leading Liberal in Prince Edward Island. During the late campaign he proclaimed himself

“the lieutenant and mouthpiece of the Honorable “Edward Blake.” Mr. Davies is one of those gentlemen who worked so hard “to make the whole country reform,” and it must be admitted that he did his share of the work.

Very well. Now listen to him. At a meeting in Charlottetown, P. E. Island, in December, 1880, Mr. Davies, speaking in condemnation of the C. P. R. contract, made use of the following language which illustrates in a very remarkable manner at once the depth of his loyalty and the soundness of his judgment :

“We are now asked ” said he, “to consent to a “contract which will seal up that great country and “hand it over to a monopoly. A contract which “will be an iron band upon the neck of every young “man who goes there as a tiller of the soil. A con- “tract from which there is no escape politically or “or commercially excepting one, and that is annex- “ation to the United States. It is an escape that “no politician likes to talk about, but it will come “one day, and when it comes we must take our “chance and make the best bargain we can.”

That is, when the time comes for selling our country we must fix the price at as high a figure as possible. Really it does look as if Mr. Mowat were mistaken in his friends.

(7)

**Mr. H. J. Cloran,**

the gentleman who bore the Reform banner in Montreal Centre at the last Dominion election, and who is an earnest admirer of Mr. Blake, Mr. Mercier and Mr. Mowat, and one of their most strenuous defenders, thus bears his witness to the truth of Mr. Mowat's assertion that the Liberal party are thoroughly loyal.

The following is Mr. Cloran's way of showing his respect for the Queen's representative in this country:

“ Living in luxurious idleness in his palace at  
 “ Ottawa on the taxes of the people of Canada, this  
 “ man (the Governor-General), to describe whose  
 “ character and conduct there are no terms suffi-  
 “ ciently expressive in loathing and execration, out-  
 “ rages every sentiment of humanity and proceeds  
 “ with fiendish, cold-blooded malignity to destroy  
 “ the homes and the lives of the peasants of Lugga-  
 “ curran. It was such conduct by heartless aristo-  
 “ crats that brought a deluge of blood upon France,  
 “ and while they exist *how can any one say that the*  
 “ *employment of the resources of civilization against them*  
 “ *is without justification.*” *Vide Montreal Post, April*  
 20th, 1887.

(8)

**Mr. M. J. Power,**

the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia, who jointly with the Honorable Mr. Field-

ing represents Halifax, at a public meeting held in Truro on the 8th December last, to inaugurate the campaign against the Dominion Government, spoke of Nova Scotians as

“A people forced to serve under a flag dirtied  
“by the presence of the Canadian beaver.”

(9) Compared with the foregoing, the statement made on a public platform by

**Mr. Greenway,**

the Leader of the Local Opposition in the Province of Manitoba, who, speaking at Boissevain during the late campaign, declared with reference to the National Policy “that he was forced by it to use a  
“miserable binder made by a miserable Canadian,” though not exactly the speech of a man who is loyal to Canada, fades into insignificance.

(10) **Mr. Donald Farquharson,**

a leading member of the Liberal party in Prince Edward Island, a gentleman, who in 1879 was a member in the Local Administration of which Mr. L. H. Davies, M. P., was Prime Minister, on the occasion of the outbreak of the rebellion in the Northwest in 1885, announced publicly his desire that thousands of Fenians might cross the border, join Riel and overrun the Northwest, and declared that had he the opportunity he would not mind firing a



few shots himself. *Vide* Charlottetown *Herald*, 8th April, 1885.

Many more illustrations of the loyalty of Mr. Mowat's friends might be adduced.

We might quote, for instance, from the Honorable David Mills, another Privy Councillor, to show that that gentleman is not ashamed from his place in Parliament to incite Her Majesty's subjects to resist the law of the land. *Vide* *Hansard*, 1885, page 1884; or from the *Globe* to the same end, *vide* *Globe*, 2nd March, 1886; or from Sir Richard Cartwright, also a Privy Councillor, who boldly tells the people that had the Parliament of Canada in the exercise of its full and undoubted right re-adjusted the constituencies of the Province of Ontario in a manner that would have been a little more—only a *little* more—distasteful to Sir Richard and his friends, the occasion would have demanded an armed revolt. *Vide* *Toronto Globe's* report of Sir Richard Cartwright's speech at Seaforth, 3rd November, 1886. Or Mr. Charlton's still more seditious harangue in Parliament—*vide* *Hansard*, 1887, page 369.

But it is not necessary to go on quoting the disloyal utterances of these men. The few selections given above clearly indicate the views of one or more prominent members of the Reform Party in

every Province of the Dominion save British Columbia, where there are as yet no Grits and consequently no disloyalty.

We think we may safely leave it to the judgment of every man who is loyal to the Queen, to British connection and to Canada, and thank God there are many such men among us, to say if Mr. Mowat's language which stands on the first page of this memorandum is not, as applied to the Liberal party of Canada, wholly the reverse of true.























